

Officials Deny CIA Quarrel

CPYRGHT

Two of the highest American officials dealing with the Viet Nam problem today denied there has been inter-agency quarreling on policy in the guerrilla-ridden nation.

The Central Intelligence Agency is not doing and has not done anything the State Department has not known about and approved, one of the best informed officials in the Government reported.

He spoke to editors and broadcasters at a briefing on United States foreign policy under rules which do not permit attribution to individuals.

He suggested that reporters ought not get too upset about gossip and rumor, even from official sources.

Another high official said some reports from Saigon about differences between intelligence, military and diplomatic actions in the American Embassy have been "quite fantastic."

John H. Richardson, reportedly the chief of the CIA mission in Saigon, has been recalled to Washington for consultations, according to some news articles, and is not expected to return to Viet Nam.

If the CIA chief in Saigon is coming back, one official said, it not because the State Department thinks he did a bad job.

On the contrary, the official said, the CIA has done a "very fine job."

One high official chided United States newsmen whose press organizations have invited Mrs. Ngo Dinh Nhu, the tart-tongued first lady of Viet Nam, to speak before them.